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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/669,525	09/25/2003	Hideo Ando	242947US2S DIV	5164
22850 7590 10/11/2007 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER NGUYEN, HUY THANH	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 10/11/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/669,525

Applicant(s)

ANDO ET AL.

Examiner

HUY T. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21 and 29-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21 and 29-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/7/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 21 and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The specification does not describe "ECC blocks are used as address information of the data area" as now being recited in the claims. It is noted that the specification discloses that the ECC blocks are data blocks, not address information.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 21 and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saeki et al (6,263,155) in view of Okada et al (6,148,140) and Gotoh et al (6292625) .

Regarding claims 21 and 29-32, Saeki discloses a method and apparatus for recording and reproducing data on and from an information storage medium (Fig. 15) configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom by an information recording/reproducing apparatus, said data including control information and video object data, the information storage medium comprising:

a data area configured to store the video object data (Fig. 3-4, column 5, line 65, column 6, column 7, lines 52 to column 8, line 7) , and

a plurality of error correction code blocks, wherein a predetermined number of sectors form each error correction code block, and each of said sectors has a predetermined size; and

a control information recording area configured to store said control information, the control information being configured to manage the video object data and including an AV file information table having a first table area configured to store object stream

information, and a second table area configured to store AV file information configured to manage information of the video object data, the AV file information including a plurality of object information, each object information including information of object units of the video object data, and a plurality of object information search pointers associated with the plurality of object information (columns 10-11, 17-18, Figs. 7-12, 24-25), wherein:

said video object data is configured to be recorded in at least one of the object units, an object corresponding to the video object data is allocated with or corresponds to one or more of the plurality of error correction code blocks (column 5, line 65 to column 6, line 18), an error correction code block address being defined in units of the error correction code block corresponds to an integer multiple of said sectors (error correction block number and sector number (Fig. 5, column 8 lines 30-43)

Saeki further teaches that the data area is a rewritable area since the medium disclosed by Saeki is a rewritable medium (DRAM) but Saeki fails to teach using audio gap information in the management information area. Okada teaches a recording and reproducing apparatus using audio gap information in management information are to control processing the audio and video object data (Fig. 12, column 30, lines 5-68 column 31, lines 1-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Saeki with Okada by providing the management information of Saeki with audio gap information as taught by Okada thereby accurately accessing and processing the audio data and video object data.

Saeki further teaches using addresses for logical blocks and sectors but fails to specifically teach using addresses for ECC blocks. However, it is noted that using addresses for ECC blocks for easily identifying an ECC block during a reproduction is well known in the art as taught by Gotoh. Gotoh teaches apparatus for processing the AV data into units of error correction blocks and an error correction block address being defined in units of sectors (column 8 lines 20-40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Saeki with Gotoh by using the teaching of using addresses for ECC blocks of Gotoh to provide each of ECC block of Okada with an address thereby easily identifying the ECC block.

Further for claims 31 and 32, Saeki and Okada teaches means for reproducing the video object data and control data from the medium (Saeki, column 19 and Okada column 23, lines 34-68).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 03 January 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that Saeki does not disclose or suggest "using ECC blocks as address information". In response, it is noted that using an address for an ECC block is well known in the art as taught by Gotoh.

Applicants argue that Okada does not teach that "the audio gap being portion at which audio reproduction is discontinued for video playback of that portion." In response, the examiner disagrees. It is noted at Figs. 12, 14, column 30, lines 54 –

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68, column 31, lines 1-35, Okada teaches that the audio gap is a portion at which the audio reproduction is discontinued (halting decoding) for video playback (video object unit playback).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

H.N

HUY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER